

26 November 2021



Response to a request for official information



Thank you for your request for official information received 28 October 2021 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information for each public hospital:

- 1. The current number of fully-staffed ICU beds for mechanically ventilated patients or multiple organ support for adults. Please exclude high acuity beds, for coronary care or high dependency care beds. I am interested in the definition given here for intensive care beds under the direct oversight of ICU teams: <https://www.ANZICS.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Responding-to-COVID-in-Aotearoa-New-Zealand-October-2021.pdf>**

NMH response: Please see Table One for our current number of Adult Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds under direct oversight of ICU teams to provide care including ventilation or multiple organ support, as outlined by the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS).

TABLE ONE

Hospital	Adult Intensive Care beds under direct oversight of ICU teams	Beds
Nelson Hospital	Intensive Coronary Care Unit (ICCU)	3
Wairau Hospital	High Dependency Unit (HDU)	0

- 1. The current number of fully-staffed ICU beds for mechanically ventilated patients or multiple organ support for children**

NMH response: NMH has no Paediatric Intensive Care beds.

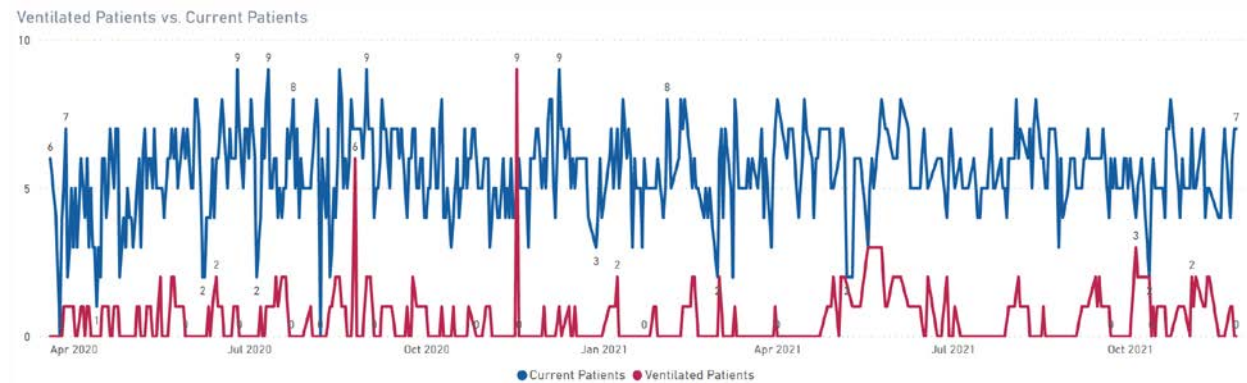
- 2. The typical occupancy rate of these beds during alert level 1 or zero**

NMH response: The hospital reporting system does not electronically capture overall bed occupancy. As such, we decline to respond under section 18(g) of the Act in 'that the information requested is not held by the department or organisation'.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

We can, however, provide the following trend graph showing the Ventilated Patients in our Nelson Intensive Care Unit from April 2020 to October 2021 with bed occupancy variable from 0 – 3.

GRAPH ONE



3. If you have plans to increase the number of beds which match the definition above, please include how many more beds you plan to have and when you plan to have them by.

NMH response: We intend to increase capacity of beds within the ICU from 7 to 9 by 1st January 2022. This will allow us greater flexibility to house contagious patients with four suitable spaces. The total number of bed spaces staffed to meet the ANZICS definition (page 1) will not change.

Resourced beds can change daily based on the complexity of the patients and the resources necessary to provide care for the mix of patients in the Unit at any time.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602. If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz

I trust this information meets your requirements. NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely

Lexie O'Shea
Chief Executive